

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

subsequent to initiation of a push-to-talk wireless communication for a talk group;

- automatically considering at least one possible subsequent push-to-talk communication need of the talk group to provide at least one corresponding determination;

- automatically identifying a network location ~~that will make~~ to support talker arbitration decisions for the push-to-talk communication needs of the talk group as a function, at least in part, of the corresponding determination;

- intentionally delaying, for at least a predetermined period of time, automatically assigning the network location to support talker arbitration for the talk group.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the talk group comprises a first mobile station and a second mobile station.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the talk group further comprises at least a third mobile station.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein subsequent to initiation of a push-to-talk wireless communication for a talk group further comprises at least partially during a time when an active wireless channel is allocated to support the push-to-talk wireless communication.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein automatically considering at least one possible subsequent push-to-talk communication need of the talk group further comprises automatically identifying at least one target mobile station to whom a present push-to-talk wireless communication is directed.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein automatically identifying a network location ~~that will make~~ to support talker arbitration decisions for the push-to-talk communication needs of the talk group as a function, at least in part, of the corresponding

determination further comprises identifying the target mobile station as the network location to support talker arbitration for the push-to-talk communication needs of the talk group.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein automatically considering at least one possible subsequent push-to-talk communication need of the talk group further comprises automatically considering at least one item of context information regarding the talk group.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein automatically considering at least one item of context information regarding the talk group further comprises automatically considering at least one of:

- voice recognition results as correspond to analysis of at least a part of a push-to-talk wireless communication;
- determining which mobile station of the talk group appears to likely comprise a discussion leader;
- determining which mobile station of the talk group comprises an originating mobile station as regards the push-to-talk wireless communication;
- user manipulation of a mobile station;
- push-to-talk wireless communications historical information;
- identification of a most frequent initiator of push-to-talk communications;
- geographic location of at least one member of the talk group;
- a presence of other concurrently used services.
- the type or length of the previous push-to-talk communication
- the target's current status as being in a meeting or not as inferred, ~~for example,~~ from a calendar meeting schedule for the target;
- the number of members in the push-to-talk group.
- the RF congestion, frame erasure rate or link speed achieved.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein automatically identifying a network location further comprises identifying a mobile station that comprises a member of the talk group.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein automatically identifying a network location further comprises identifying a network server.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

- automatically assigning the network location to support talker arbitration for the talk group.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein automatically assigning the network location to support talker arbitration for the talk group further comprises transmitting at least one explicit message to the network location to indicate assignment of talker arbitration to the network location.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein automatically assigning the network location to support talker arbitration for the talk group further comprises transmitting a signal to the network location to indicate assignment of talker arbitration to the network location.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[15]] 1 and further comprising:

- detecting, while intentionally delaying automatically assigning the network location, a condition of interest;
- automatically identifying a network location to support talker arbitration for the push-to-talk communication needs of the talk group as a function, at least in part, of the condition of interest.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein detecting a condition of interest further comprises detecting that a just-previous transmitting mobile station is seeking to initiate a subsequent push-to-talk wireless communication.

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18-25. (Cancelled)